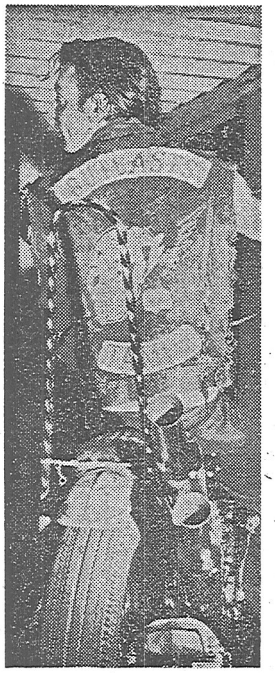

AP Wirephoto

Night Rider

Michael "Suds" Light, 27, revs up his "hog" (motorcycle) and prepares to leave his north St. Petersburg home for some night riding. Light is secretary of the 13-month-old Outcasts motorcycle club of the Tampa Bay Area. Light maintains his club has nothing to do with the "Outlaws," a club implicated in the torture of an 18-year-old girl in West Palm Beach last week.

IN ST. PETERSBURG

Outcasts' Party Foamy, Quiet

By The Associated Press

The party's last guest arrives, wearing a Prussian helmet, swastika ear ring and a Girl Scouts emblem. He smiles shyly.

Out sticks the bare, muscled, tatooed arm of the host. His vest sports a paratrooper emblem and little orange button declaring, "Pot Hits The Spot."

The party in St. Petersburg is that of the Outcasts motorcycle club. They expect a raid at any moment, but the night sky grows pale and no police are seen.

Gov. Claude Kirk has vowed to expel motorcycle gangs from Florida within a month. Some lawmen have promised arrests if it's only for spitting on a sidewalk.

"We're not going," said Michael "Suds" Light, 27. He's the party's host and the secretary of the Outcasts. He might be called the spokesman, too.

"I don't care if we have to stay in jail all the time, we're not leaving Florida."

Movies and television have exaggerated the combativeness of motorcycle gangs, said Light.

"We never look for a fight, but if it comes, we're ready. We'll go to a bar and some guy will start making cracks. We ignore him once, we ignore him twice, and then's he's going to get it."

Jones and Light live a few doors apart on a dirt road in North St. Petersburg. Both have young, attractive wives whom they call "old ladies."

A lot of beer was drunk at the party. But it was done quietly. The little pink, concrete block house remains neat.

Light's wife puts down the crossword puzzle book and walks to the refrigerator. She frowns. No ice tea.

★

License Suspended At 'Outlaws' Hangout

WEST PALM BEACH (UPI) — The State Hotel and Restaurant Commission yesterday suspended the license of a bar that had been the hangout for "The Outlaws" motorcycle gang.

Commissioner A. R. Brautigam said the 12-months suspension was ordered "in the interests of the health and safety of the public of Florida." The action came after a short hearing here.